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There is no mention in this book of German militarism or of Pan-germanism as contributing to the great calamity. The Russian mobilization is apparently considered the thing that rendered inevitable the general war. The attempts made by Grey late in July, 1914, to preserve the peace are not alluded to. The name of Sir Edward is, indeed, among the missing. This is regrettable in itself, but all the more so as the author might have been led to refer to Sir Edward's recent efforts to adjust the disputes between Great Britain and Germany, as those between Great Britain and France and Russia had been previously adjusted. Had Grey succeeded in his efforts competing imperialisms might, after all, not have clashed and secular rancors might not have led to war. It is not charged that Sir Edward was responsible for the failure of those negotiations.

In Professor Schevill's account of the war the name of Joffre is not mentioned, although those of Hindenburg and Mackensen are. Not even a paragraph is given to the part America played in the war and the name of Pershing is not to be found, although considerable space, comparatively speaking, is given to Wilson's peace principles and policies. It may be remarked in closing that it is incorrect to say that of the thousand victims of the Lusitania "several hundred" were of American nationality; nor was the Young Turk Revolution of 1908 subsequent to the Austro-Hungarian annexation of Bosnia, as is apparently stated or implied on page 561.

CHARLES DOWNER HAZEN

The High Cost of Strikes. By MARSHALL OLDS. New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1921.—xx, 286 pp.

The increasing employment of quantitative measurement in the study of social problems is one of the most significant tendencies in modern economic research. Such quantitative measurement is particularly appropriate in determining the degree of efficiency of present industrial methods and the cost to the community of faulty industrial practices. The work of the Hoover Committee on Waste in Industry has demonstrated how fruitful such a method may be.

The author of *The High Cost of Strikes* faced a similar problem, that of measuring the cost to society of industrial stoppages due to the use of the strike by organized labor. Such a study gave promise of yielding results of wide interest and great value. These hopes are not realized in the book at hand. As a partisan argument the

book perhaps justifies itself in the eyes of those whose views it expresses. But accurate measurement, impartial judgment and reasoned conclusion have not entered into the making of it.

A single quotation will serve to make clear the main argument of the book and to exemplify the errors into which the author falls. "The war made it necessary to take the labor of some six million men away from being applied to the production of normal commodities. This resulted in such a reduction in the amount of normal commodities produced that prices went up one hundred points—fifty points a year. Then these six million men supposedly went back to the production of normal commodities, but in the first year after the war, because of strikes or labor inefficiency—which, because of what we know about the efficiency of American labor, can be laid only to the spirit of strikes—they so failed to produce the goods the country needed that prices went up sixty points still higher, or more than they had in any year during the war" (pp. 83-84).

Part of this assertion is capable of verification, if true, for the course of production and the movement of prices during the war have been traced by several competent authorities. Following are two indices of the physical volume of production and an index of commodity prices at wholesale.

	<i>War Industries Board Index of Production.</i>	<i>Day's Index of Production.</i>	<i>U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Index of Wholesale Prices.</i>
	(1913 = 100)	(1913 = 100)	(1913 = 100)
1916	111	111.4	124
1917	114	113.9	176
1918	116	113.1	196
1919		107.0	212

The physical volume of production in 1917 was between 2 and 3 per cent greater than in 1916. Prices were 42 per cent higher. The volume of production in 1918 was approximately the same as in 1917 (the two indices show a slight variation), but prices rose about 11 per cent. Production in 1919 was about 5 per cent less than in 1918, and prices rose about 8 per cent. (If the comparison be made on the monthly basis, the price increase was 15.5 per cent.) Liquidation in 1920 brought with it a concurrent decline in prices and in the volume of production. These figures indicate that prices may rise with increased production, and may fall when production is declining. Such a direct relationship is the normal one, in fact. Over the ten-year period, 1911-1920, prices and the volume of production

increased or decreased together during eight years, and moved in opposite directions during only two years.

In the face of these facts it is difficult to maintain the thesis that the basic cause of high prices is lessened production. Yet such is the claim of the author. Inflation is dismissed as a minor factor: ". . . it is as simple as ABC that the very fact that we have more money means that we have relatively less consumable products, and that the one economic way to equalize the relation between money and consumable products is to increase production" (p. 79). This is curiously reminiscent of much that was heard two years ago, and curiously out of place in a book published in 1921.

The problems which modern industry faces are tangled and difficult, and there is pressing need for careful investigation and reasoned judgment in meeting these problems. With this urgent need to be met, it is doubly to be regretted that the author of *The High Cost of Strikes* has not prepared an exposition bearing more convincing evidences of scientific disinterestedness.

FREDERICK C. MILLS

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Immigrant Health and the Community. By MICHAEL M. DAVIS, JR. New York, Harper and Brothers, 1921.—xxviii, 482 pp.

This book has to do with the care and promotion of health among the foreign population, and its purpose is "to help interrelate the so-called Americanization movement in the United States with the many efforts toward the betterment of health conditions." The war experience led many to see that the assimilation of many millions of people of foreign birth into our nation implies more than teaching them English or getting them naturalized. The widely heralded American ideals of liberty and equality of opportunity are presented with some difficulty to our immigrant people, in view of the congested and unsanitary housing conditions amid which they live, and the exploitation and industrial hazards which accompany their efforts to secure a living. Their contacts are too often with the worst in American life.

The seriousness of health problems among immigrants is impressed upon the reader by contrasting the available sickness and death rates of the foreign population with those of the native-born. The elements in the environment which constitute a menace to the immigrant's health are described: unsanitary housing; difficulties of